



## Chapter 8: Public and Community Development and Services





# Chapter 8: Public and Community Development and Services

This chapter provides information on public and community development and services available within, or in close proximity to, South Wilmington, following the geography shown in Figure 8.1., which is the cumulative area of the 91 Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3. Included are details on transportation systems and services, education services, public and community buildings, and public and social services available to South Wilmington residents. The chapter also includes information on the South Wilmington water and sewer system and parks and recreational services within South Wilmington.

The information presented in this chapter was collected from a variety of sources, all of which are cited and listed in the Works Cited section of this report. Because the information was collected from multiple sources, the data reflect a variety of years—please refer to the text and/or table/figure citations to determine the age of the data. Additionally, it is important to recognize that the information in this chapter represents that from readily available sources; additional resources may be present in South Wilmington which were not captured in the accessible data sources and thus these resources are not represented in the chapter.

## South Wilmington Key Numbers:

**Total length of South Wilmington roads:** 19.3 miles

**Nearest rail station:** City of Wilmington  
Rail services: Amtrak, SEPTA, CSX Transportation

**Nearest airports:** New Castle Airport; Philadelphia International Airport

**Nearest port:** Port of Wilmington

**Number of childcare facilities:** 2

**South Wilmington school district:** Christina  
(District number 95 – 33 00)  
Number of public schools attended by South Wilmington students: 9

**Number of libraries:** 0  
Libraries in the City of Wilmington: 6

**Number of courts:** 0  
Courts in the City of Wilmington: 9

**Number of government buildings:** 1

**Number of senior living centers:** 2

**Number of places of worship:** 15

**Number of health care facilities:** 1  
Major hospitals in the City of Wilmington: 6

**Number of civic and neighborhood organizations:** 2

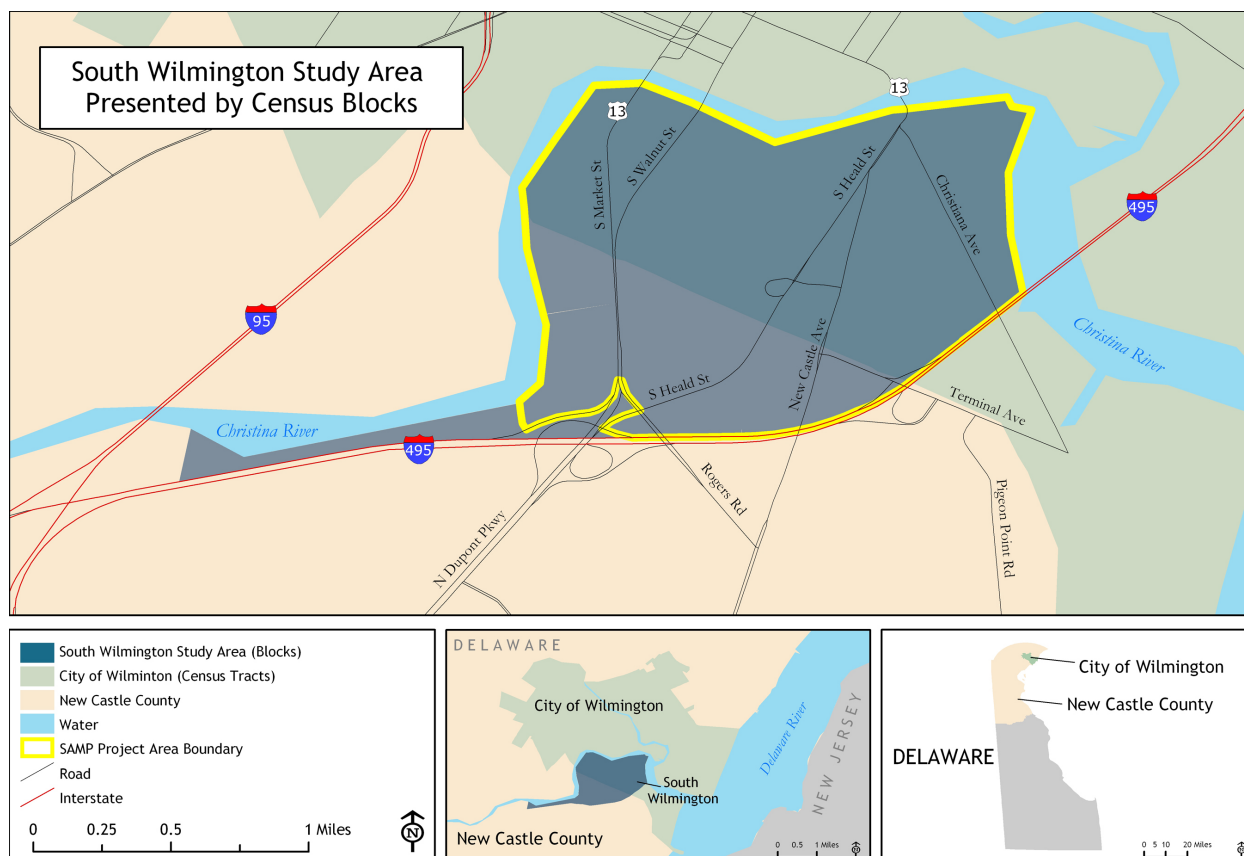
**City of Wilmington average water usage:** 26 million gallons/day

**City of Wilmington average waste water flow:** 80 million gallons/day

**Total length of South Wilmington sewer system:** 20.7 miles

**Number of parks:** 8

*Sources: Amtrak, 2005; SEPTA, 2005; New Castle Airport, 2005; Philadelphia International Airport, 2005; Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2005; Christina School District, 2004; New Castle County, 2005; Delaware State Courts, 2004; City of Wilmington, 2004b*



**Figure 8.1.** The South Wilmington study area used in this chapter of the report, which represents the cumulative area of the 91 Census blocks shown in Figure 1.3.

Sources: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001; U.S. Census Bureau, 2000

## 8.a. Transportation

This section includes details on the transportation systems within or near South Wilmington, including roads, public transportation, rail, airports, and the Port of Wilmington.

### Roads

Roads within South Wilmington are part of the New Castle County road network and are defined according to classes set by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). The FHWA classifies roads according to road function, where function is based on the type of services a road provides to the public (FHWA, 2002).

In 2001, there were a total of 19.3 miles of roads within or bordering South Wilmington (Figure 8.2). These roads fell into five different FHWA classifications (Table 8.1). Most of the roads (7.3 miles total) in South Wilmington were classified as local roads, meaning that they provide limited mobility and primarily serve to provide access to residential areas and local businesses; speed limits on local roads typically range from 20 to 45 miles per hour (FHWA, 2002). South Wilmington had a total of 6.6 miles arterial roads, including principal arterial and minor arterial roads; the FHWA defines arterial roads as those which supplement the interstate system and serve to connect major



urban areas, cities, and industrial centers and have speed limits between 50 and 70 miles per hour (FHWA, 2002). Collectors, of which there were 1.8 miles in South Wilmington, include roads that connect local roads with arterial roads; connector roads are typically shorter than arterial roads and have speed limits between 35 and 55 miles per hour (FHWA, 2002). South Wilmington is also bordered by 3.6 miles of interstate roads (Interstate-495 and Interstate-95), which, according to the FHWA, are arterial roads that provide the highest level of mobility over the greatest distances; interstate speed limits typically range between 55 and 75 miles per hour (FHWA, 2002).

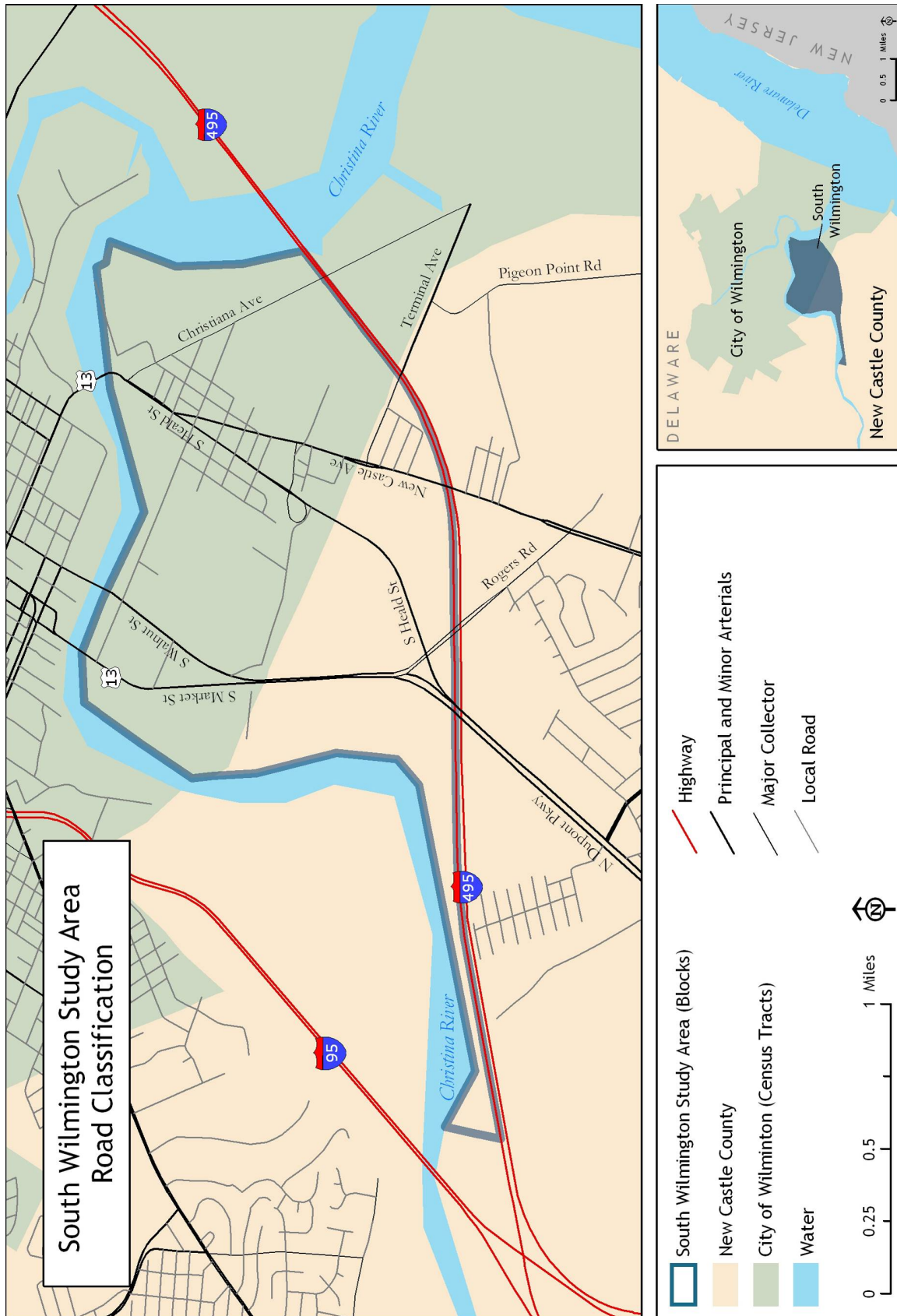
Table 8.2. displays traffic counts on streets in South Wilmington for the years 1996 – 1999. A traffic count is defined as the two-way average daily traffic that passes a specified location. As shown in the table, the most heavily traveled street in South Wilmington was New Castle Avenue, near its intersection with S. Claymont Street.

Road classification	Length (miles)
Interstate (bordering South Wilmington)	3.6
Local roads	7.3
Major collectors	1.8
Minor arterials	4.0
Principal arterials	2.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>19.3</b>

**Table 8.1.** Length of roads in South Wilmington; road lengths calculated using road centerlines.  
Source: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001

Street:	Closest Cross-street:	Count:	Year of count:
S Heald St	E St (0 miles NE)	11,943	1996
New Castle Ave	D St (0.01 miles N)	5,040	1996
New Castle Ave	E St (0.01 miles S)	6,130	1996
New Castle Ave	A St (0.02 miles S)	6,257	1997
S Heald St	Lobdell St (0.02 miles NE)	11,696	1997
New Castle Ave	S Claymont St (0.03 miles N)	67,412	1997
S Walnut St	C St (0.03 miles SW)	27,817	1997
Peach St	S Heald St (0 miles NW)	12,667	1997
Dupont Pky	S Market St (0.1 miles S)	24,466	1997
S Heald St	Garasches Ln (0.27 miles NE)	13,004	1997
S Walnut St	A St (0.04 miles NE)	26,079	1997
S Market St	Howard St (0.08 miles N)	22,219	1997
S Heald St	Christiana Ave (0.03 miles NE)	11,876	1997
Christiana Ave	S Heald St (0 miles S)	11,876	1997
Terminal Ave	Wilmington Ave (0.07 miles SE)	10,400	1999
Dupont Pky	Millside Dr (0.07 miles S)	26,096	1999
New Castle Ave	Dover Ave (0 miles N)	10,189	1999
S Market St	A St (0.09 miles NE)	7,006	1999
Rogers Rd	S Heald St (0.04 miles SE)	14,390	1999
S Heald St	Rogers Rd (0.01 miles NE)	14,390	1999
Rogers Rd	S Heald St (0.04 miles NW)	7,266	1999
S Heald St	Rogers Rd (0.07 miles NE)	15,349	1999

**Table 8.2.** Average Daily Traffic counts for selected roads in South Wilmington.  
Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2005



**Figure 8.2.** Roads in South Wilmington.  
 Source: Delaware Department of Transportation, 2001

## Public bus transportation

Public bus transportation for the entire state of Delaware is provided by DART First State, which is operated by the Delaware Transit Corporation, a division of the Delaware Department of Transportation (DART First State, 2002). As of 2002, DART First State operated a fleet of 393 buses, 100 percent of which were fully accessible according to the Americans with Disabilities Act. DART First State operated 39 bus routes in New Castle County, 11 routes in Kent County, 11 routes in Sussex County, and two intercounty bus routes that provided service between Wilmington and Dover and between Dover and Milford (DART First State, 2002). Table 8.3. lists bus routes that pass through South Wilmington, as well as areas served by these routes.

Fares for 2005 were those made effective May 31, 2001 (DART First State, 2001). The regular fare for all fixed-route buses in New Castle County, with the exception of Route 32, was \$1.15; riders over the age of 65 or who had a certified disability were eligible to ride fixed-route buses for a fare of \$0.45. Route 32 had a special cash fare of \$0.25 for all riders. Children and blind riders rode for free. Riders could also purchase a daily pass for \$2.40 (DART First State, 2001).

For intercounty routes, which included Route 301, fares ranged from \$1.50 to \$7.50, depending upon the distance traveled; riders over the age of 65 or who had a certified disability were eligible to ride intercounty buses for fares that ranged between \$0.60 and \$3.00. Intercounty bus daily passes ranged in price from \$3.15 to \$9.45 (DART First State, 2001).

Route number:	Areas served:		Service provided:
15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Christiana Mall</li> <li>♦ Corporate Commons</li> <li>♦ Basin Road</li> <li>♦ New Castle</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Jefferson Farms</li> <li>♦ New Castle Avenue</li> <li>♦ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays, Saturday
16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Fairfield</li> <li>♦ Nottingham Green</li> <li>♦ Oaklands</li> <li>♦ Newark</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Newark Rail Station</li> <li>♦ Park &amp; Ride: DE 4 &amp; DE 896</li> <li>♦ I-95 Service Plaza</li> <li>♦ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays
17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Health &amp; Social Services Campus</li> <li>♦ Southgate Industrial Park</li> <li>♦ Riveredge Industrial Park</li> <li>♦ Memorial Drive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Holloway Terrace</li> <li>♦ Dunleith</li> <li>♦ Rogers Road</li> <li>♦ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays, Saturday
22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Wilton</li> <li>♦ WalMart on US 40</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ DuPont Highway</li> <li>♦ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays, Saturday
23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Computer Sciences Corporation</li> <li>♦ Fleet Bank</li> <li>♦ University Plaza</li> <li>♦ Park &amp; Ride: DE 7 &amp; DE 273</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Wilton</li> <li>♦ Edinburgh Drive</li> <li>♦ Corporate Commons</li> <li>♦ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays, Saturday
24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Village of Fox Point</li> <li>♦ Governor Printz Boulevard</li> <li>♦ Edgemoor</li> <li>♦ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Adams 4 Plaza</li> <li>♦ Greenhill Ave</li> <li>♦ Woodlawn Ave</li> </ul>	Weekdays, Saturday
25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Downtown Wilmington</li> <li>♦ Llangollen</li> <li>♦ Airport Plaza</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ DuPont Highway</li> <li>♦ Park &amp; Ride: Tybouts Corner</li> </ul>	Weekdays, Saturday
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Downtown Wilmington</li> <li>♦ Stanton</li> <li>♦ Limestone Road</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Pike Creek Shopping Center</li> <li>♦ Lantana Square</li> </ul>	Weekdays

33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Newark Municipal Building</li> <li>◆ Elkton Road and Apple Road</li> <li>◆ Newark Rail Station</li> <li>◆ Park &amp; Ride: DE 4 &amp; DE 896</li> <li>◆ MBNA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Fairplay Station at Churchman's Crossing</li> <li>◆ Christiana Hospital</li> <li>◆ Continental Drive</li> <li>◆ Christiana Mall</li> <li>◆ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays, Saturday
34	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Downtown Wilmington</li> <li>◆ Christiana Mall</li> <li>◆ University Plaza Shopping Center</li> <li>◆ Christiana High School</li> <li>◆ Kimberton</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Newark Senior Center</li> <li>◆ Avon</li> <li>◆ College Square Shopping Center</li> <li>◆ Main St. at Newark Shopping Center</li> </ul>	Weekdays
39	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Newark Municipal Building</li> <li>◆ Elkton Road and Apple Road</li> <li>◆ Park &amp; Ride: DE 4 &amp; DE 896</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Christiana Mall</li> <li>◆ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays
40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ People's Plaza</li> <li>◆ Fox Run</li> <li>◆ Sparrow Run</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Christiana Mall</li> <li>◆ Park &amp; Ride: DE 7 &amp; DE 273</li> <li>◆ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays, Saturday
41	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ People's Plaza</li> <li>◆ Fox Run</li> <li>◆ Sparrow Run</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Christiana Mall</li> <li>◆ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays
42	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ People's Plaza</li> <li>◆ Four Seasons</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays
54	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Downtown Wilmington</li> <li>◆ Christiana Mall</li> <li>◆ Park &amp; Ride: DE 7 at DE 273</li> <li>◆ Liberty Terrace</li> <li>◆ Springmill</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Governor's Square Shopping Center</li> <li>◆ Buckley</li> <li>◆ Fairwinds Trailer Park</li> <li>◆ Wilton</li> </ul>	Weekdays
55	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ People's Plaza</li> <li>◆ Pleasant Valley Road</li> <li>◆ Pencader Corporate Center</li> <li>◆ Four Seasons</li> <li>◆ Glasgow High School</li> <li>◆ Park &amp; Ride: DE 4 &amp; DE 896</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ South Chapel Street Industrial Parks</li> <li>◆ Old Baltimore Pike</li> <li>◆ Christiana</li> <li>◆ Christiana Mall</li> <li>◆ Downtown Wilmington</li> </ul>	Weekdays
59	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Newark Rail Station</li> <li>◆ Fairplay Station</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Wilmington Station</li> </ul>	Weekdays
301	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Wilmington: Amtrak Station</li> <li>◆ Wilmington: Rodney Square</li> <li>◆ Christiana Mall</li> <li>◆ Middletown</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Smyrna</li> <li>◆ Dover</li> <li>◆ Intermediate points</li> </ul>	Weekdays
423	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Rodney Square</li> <li>◆ Wilmington Amtrak Station</li> <li>◆ Penns Grove, NJ</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Pennsville, NJ</li> <li>◆ Deepwater, NJ</li> </ul>	Weekdays

**Table 8.3.** Areas served and service provided by DART bus routes passing through South Wilmington.  
Source: DART First State, 2005

## **Rail**

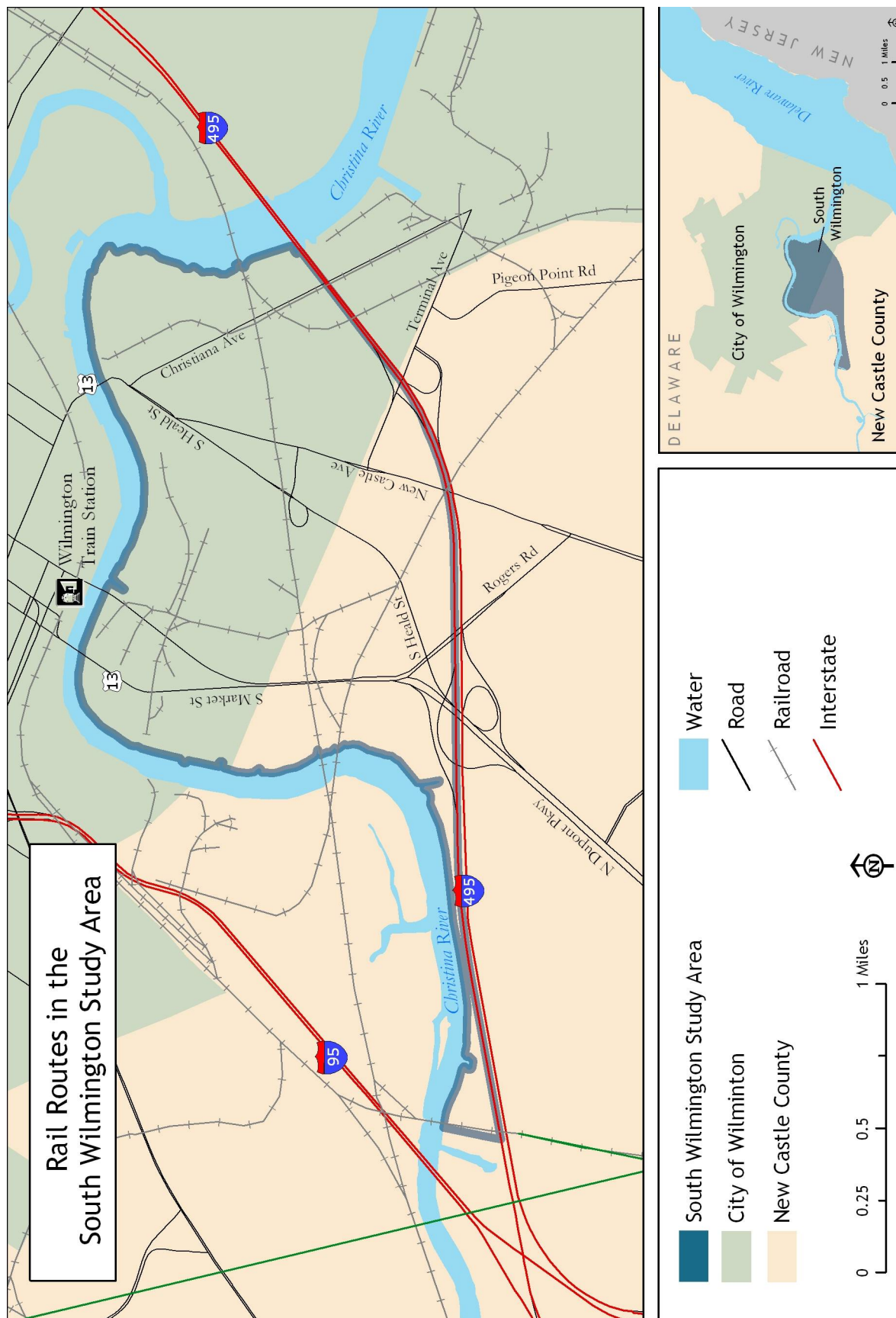
In 2005, Amtrak provided full passenger service to the City of Wilmington area; three rail stations with Amtrak service were located within 20 miles of downtown Wilmington (in Wilmington, Delaware; Newark, Delaware; and Downingtown, Pennsylvania) (Amtrak, 2005). The Wilmington station, which was the closest station to South Wilmington, was open every day of the week, from 4 am to midnight. The station offered a range of routes that covered the eastern United States, including full Acela Express and Metroliner service, which provided rapid transit to major metropolitan centers such as New York City, Boston, Philadelphia, and Washington, DC (Amtrak, 2005).

Also in 2005, the City of Wilmington was serviced by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA), which provided public rail transportation services to several Pennsylvanian counties and selected rail service in New Jersey and Delaware (SEPTA, 2005). South Wilmington residents could access SEPTA rail at the Wilmington station, located at Martin Luther King Boulevard and French Street (SEPTA, 2005). The City of Wilmington was directly located on the R2 (Wilmington and Newark) line.

As of 2004, CSX Transportation offered comprehensive freight service with connections to all major points (City of Wilmington, 2004c).

Figure 8.3. shows rail track routes through South Wilmington. As of 2005, there were 6.7 miles of rail lines in South Wilmington.





**Figure 8.3.** Rail tracks in South Wilmington.  
 Source: U.S. National Transportation Atlas, 1997; 1996

## ***Airports***

In 2005, there were two airports located within relatively close proximity to South Wilmington: the New Castle Airport and the Philadelphia International Airport.

The New Castle Airport was located approximately five miles northeast of downtown Wilmington. In 2005, the New Castle Airport covered approximately 1,250 acres; had three major runways, ten taxiways, and multiple aircraft parking ramps; and offered a full schedule of freight services and limited commuter and charter flight services (New Castle Airport, 2005). The airport also housed a flight training center and the Delaware Air National Guard's crash, fire, and rescue facility.

Philadelphia International Airport was less than 25 miles southwest of South Wilmington, located just outside of the downtown Philadelphia, Pennsylvania area. The airport, which in 2005 covered approximately 2,300 acres, had seven terminals and four runways and offered a full range of domestic and international flights to over 100 destinations (Philadelphia International Airport, 2005). In 2003, the airport handled 446,529 aircraft takeoffs and landings and processed over 24 million passengers. Additionally, Philadelphia International Airport was served by six all-cargo airlines and had a cargo volume of 578,264 tons in 2003 (Philadelphia International Airport, 2005).

## ***The Port of Wilmington***

The Port of Wilmington, located along the confluence of the Christina and Delaware Rivers, was, in 2005, owned and operated by the Diamond State Port Corporation, which is a corporate entity of the State of Delaware. The Port is accessible via the Delaware and Christina Rivers, interstate I-95, and rail (Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005).

As of 2005, port facilities included seven deepwater general cargo berths, a tanker berth, and floating berths for roll-on/roll-off ("RoRo") vessels. The Port covered over 350 acres and included 50 acres of open space and 250,000 square feet of warehouse space for storage (Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005).

In 2004, the Port handled 4.5 million tons of waterborne cargo tonnage and nearly 400 vessels (Table 8.4.). The Port of Wilmington was ranked first in North America for imports of fresh fruit, bananas, and juice concentrate, serving companies such as the Dole Fresh Fruit Company and Chiquita Banana North America (Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005). The Port was also involved in the import/export of automobiles and, in 2004, the Port handled 150 tons of vehicles. The Port also handled a variety of other cargoes, such as steel, paper and pulp, and petroleum products in 2004.

	Volume
<b>Total annual vessel calls</b>	395
<b>Total annual waterborne cargo tonnage</b>	4.5 million tons
Total containerized tonnage	1,499 tons
Bananas and tropical fruit	1,284 tons
Chilean deciduous fruit	192 tons
Other fruit	193 tons
Apple and orange juice concentrates	110 tons
Frozen beef and seafood	120 tons
Automobiles	150 tons
Steel	119 tons
Forest products	135 tons
Dry bulk	695 tons
Petroleum liquid bulk	1,500 tons
Other general cargo	1 ton

**Table 8.4.** Port of Wilmington statistics for calendar year 2004.  
Source: *Diamond State Port Corporation, 2005*

## 8.b. Educational Structures and Services

This section provides information on the educational institutions and services available in or near South Wilmington, including child care and early childhood education organizations, public schools attended by South Wilmington students, and institutions of higher learning in the City of Wilmington. Details are also included on expenditures and services available for Wilmington public schools.

### *Child care and early childhood education organizations*

As mentioned in Chapter 3, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, in 2000, 7.2 percent of the South Wilmington population (block groups) were between the ages of zero and four, and thus not yet eligible to enter school. For the working parent(s) of these children, as of 2005, there were 32 child care and early childhood education organizations in the City of Wilmington; two of these organizations were located directly in South Wilmington: Neighborhood House and Southbridge Children's Center (City of Wilmington, 2005b).

Neighborhood House, located at 1218 "B" Street, served approximately 60 children from infancy through kindergarten in 2005 (Neighborhood House, 2005). Neighborhood House partnered with national early childhood programs including Head Start and Early Head Start. In 2005, the facility was open Monday thru Friday, from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm (Neighborhood House, 2005) and accepted funding from Purchase of Care, the State of Delaware child care subsidy program designed to help lower-income families receive adequate child care services (Delaware Helpline, Inc., 2002a).

Southbridge Children's Center, located at 1106 "D" Street, was managed in 2005 through the Family and Workplace Connection and was a partner in the Northern Delaware Early Head Start Consortium. In 2002, the Center provided year-round care, Monday thru Friday, from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm, for children up to three years of age (Delaware Helpline, Inc., 2002b). Eligible families could receive funding to cover 4.5 hours of child care per day through the Early Head Start

program; families could apply to receive Purchase of Care funds to pay for the remainder of the day. Additional services available through the Southbridge Children's Center included home visits, health and nutrition education, and family support (Delaware Helpline, Inc., 2002b).

## Public secondary schools

As mentioned in Chapter 3, in 2000, there were 1,441 students enrolled in grades kindergarten through twelve and living in South Wilmington (block groups); 94.1 percent of these students attended public schools.

Kindergarten through twelfth-grade students who are living in South Wilmington and within the City of Wilmington limit attended several different public schools in 2005, all of which are part of the Christina School District (District number 95 – 33 00). Schools attended, by grade level, and general information about each of the schools are listed in Table 8.5.; Figure 8.4. shows the location of each school.

Grade	School
Grades K – 1	<b>Bancroft Elementary School</b> <i>Building:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Year built: 1928</li> <li>◆ Year last remodeled: 1998</li> <li>◆ Number of classrooms: 38</li> <li>◆ Air conditioning: Yes</li> </ul> <i>Staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Teachers: 68.0</li> <li>◆ Librarians: 0.0</li> <li>◆ Student/teacher ratio: 15.1</li> </ul>
	<b>Brookside Elementary School</b> <i>Building:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Year built: 1954</li> <li>◆ Year last remodeled: N/A</li> <li>◆ Number of classrooms: 30</li> <li>◆ Air conditioning: No</li> </ul> <i>Staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Teachers: 30.5</li> <li>◆ Librarians: 1.0</li> <li>◆ Student/teacher ratio: 16.1</li> </ul>
	<b>West Park Place Elementary</b> <i>Building:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Year built: 1954</li> <li>◆ Year last remodeled: 1985</li> <li>◆ Number of classrooms: 24</li> <li>◆ Air conditioning: No</li> </ul> <i>Staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Teachers: 24.5</li> <li>◆ Librarians: 1.0</li> <li>◆ Student/teacher ratio: 17.9</li> </ul>
	<b>Joseph M. McVey Elementary School</b> <i>Building:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Year built: 1964</li> <li>◆ Year last remodeled: N/A</li> <li>◆ Number of classrooms: 28</li> <li>◆ Air conditioning: No</li> </ul> <i>Staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Teachers: 37.0</li> <li>◆ Librarians: 1.0</li> <li>◆ Student/teacher ratio: 15.2</li> </ul>
	<b>Jennie E. Smith Elementary School</b> <i>Building:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Year built: 1958</li> <li>◆ Year last remodeled: 1979</li> <li>◆ Number of classrooms: 30</li> <li>◆ Air conditioning: No</li> </ul> <i>Staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Teachers: 33.0</li> <li>◆ Librarians: 1.0</li> <li>◆ Student/teacher ratio: 16.2</li> </ul>

<b>Grades 4 – 6</b>	<b>Elbert Palmer Elementary School</b> <i>Building:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Year built: 1916</li> <li>◆ Year last remodeled: 1989</li> <li>◆ Number of classrooms: 19</li> <li>◆ Air conditioning: Yes</li> </ul> <i>Staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Teachers: 16.0</li> <li>◆ Librarians: 1.0</li> <li>◆ Student/teacher ratio: 14.3</li> </ul>
<b>Grades 7 – 8</b>	<b>Shue-Medill Middle School</b> <i>Building:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Year built: 1967</li> <li>◆ Year last remodeled: 1998</li> <li>◆ Number of classrooms: 67</li> <li>◆ Air conditioning: Yes</li> </ul> <i>Staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Teachers: 62.0</li> <li>◆ Librarians: 1.0</li> <li>◆ Student/teacher ratio: 16.4</li> </ul>
	<b>George V. Kirk Middle School</b> <i>Building:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Year built: 1958</li> <li>◆ Year last remodeled: 1994</li> <li>◆ Number of classrooms: 52</li> <li>◆ Air conditioning: Yes</li> </ul> <i>Staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Teachers: 63.0</li> <li>◆ Librarians: 1.0</li> <li>◆ Student/teacher ratio: 16.0</li> </ul>
<b>Grades 9 – 12</b>	<b>Newark High School</b> <i>Building:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Year built: 1955</li> <li>◆ Year last remodeled: 1998</li> <li>◆ Number of classrooms: 103</li> <li>◆ Air conditioning: Yes</li> </ul> <i>Staff:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Teachers: 108.0</li> <li>◆ Librarians: 2.0</li> <li>◆ Student/teacher ratio: 17.8</li> </ul>

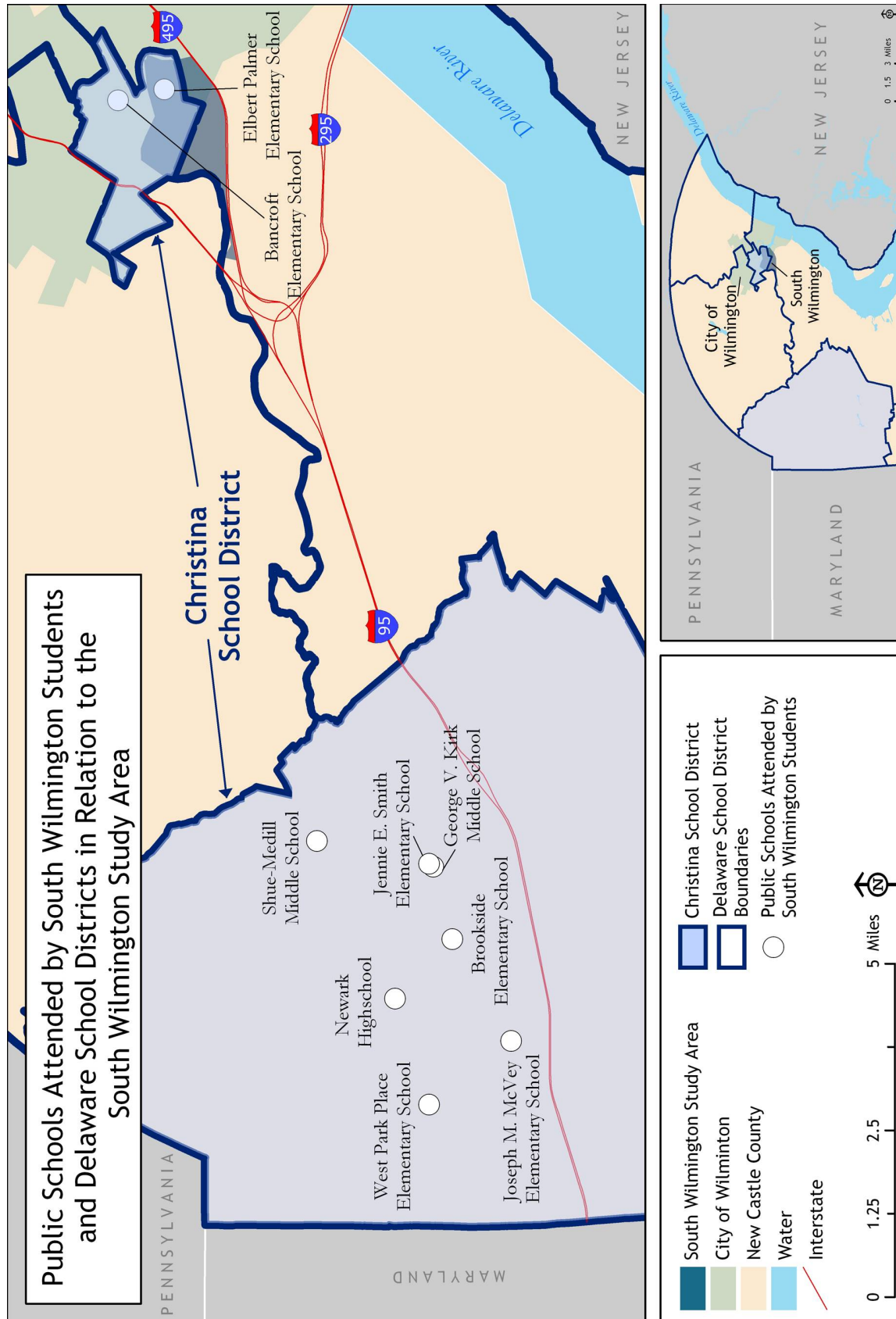
**Table 8.5.** Public schools attended by K-12 students living in South Wilmington.  
Source: Delaware Department of Education, 2004

Services offered by the Christina School District include immunizations and health screenings, special education for pregnant students, and driver education (Delaware Department of Education, 2004).

During the 2002 – 2003 year, the Christina School District had net total expenditures of approximately \$179.8 million (Delaware Department of Education, 2003), with expenditures per student of \$9,293 (Delaware Department of Education, 2004). Also for the 2002 – 2003 year, the Christina School District received \$11.4 million from the State of Delaware; \$12.0 million from federal grants; and \$55.4 million from local funds, which included \$36.4 million in taxes (Delaware Department of Education, 2003). In 2004, average school property taxes for a home valued at \$50,000 within the District were \$212.98; a homeowner with a \$100,000 home paid an average of \$425.95 in school taxes in 2004 (Delaware Department of Education, 2004).

The Christina School District operated 177 buses, which served 913 routes and 18,884 students during the 2002-2003 school year; the District spent a total of \$5.8 million on transportation services during this year (Delaware Department of Education, 2003).





**Figure 8.4.** Location of schools attended by South Wilmington students.  
Source: *State of Delaware Department of Education, 2005*

## ***Institutions of higher learning***

As discussed in Chapter 3, in 2000, there were 95 students enrolled in college and 20 graduate students who were South Wilmington residents (following the Census block groups geography). In 2005, there were eight institutions of higher learning in the City of Wilmington, none of which were located directly in South Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2005b). These institutions included the following:

- ♦ Delaware College of Art and Design
- ♦ Delaware State University
- ♦ Delaware Technical and Community College
- ♦ Drexel University at Wilmington
- ♦ Springfield College
- ♦ University of Delaware
- ♦ University of Delaware Center for Community Research and Service
- ♦ Wilmington College

## **8.c. Public and Community Buildings**

This section presents information on public and community buildings, including libraries, courthouses, government offices, senior housing and centers, and places of worship, that were within or nearby South Wilmington.

### ***Libraries***

In 2005, there were two public library systems accessible to South Wilmington residents: the New Castle County Public Libraries and the City of Wilmington Public Libraries. There were twelve libraries within the New Castle County Public Library system, two of which were located in the City of Wilmington (New Castle County, 2005b). While none of these libraries was located within South Wilmington, three were located less than ten miles from South Wilmington. In 2005, there were four libraries within the City of Wilmington Public Library system (Wilmington Public Library, 2005).

Funding for both library systems came primarily from New Castle County property taxes. County funds represented nearly 60 percent of the City of Wilmington library system's 2004 operating budget; the library system also received funds from private endowment; the State of Delaware; the federal government; and the City of Wilmington (Wilmington Public Library, 2005).

### ***Courthouses***

No courthouses were located directly within South Wilmington in 2005; however, several Delaware and federal courts had offices within the City of Wilmington.

The Delaware Judiciary System is composed of six courts: the Justice of the Peace Court, the Court of Common Pleas, the Family Court, Superior Court, the Court of Chancery, and the Supreme

Court (Delaware State Courts, 2004). Within New Castle County, Delaware courts hear cases at a variety of locations; those locations within the City of Wilmington as of 2005 are listed in Table 8.6.

Additionally, federal cases were heard through the U.S. District Court for the Delaware District and U.S. Bankruptcy Court - District of Delaware, at locations within the City of Wilmington (U.S. Bankruptcy Court - District of Delaware, 2005; U.S. District Court - District of Delaware, 2004).

Court	Location
Delaware Justice of the Peace Court 13 (Civil cases)	Concord Professional Building 1010 Concord Avenue
Delaware Justice of the Peace Court 20 (Criminal cases)	Public Safety Building 300 North Walnut Street
Delaware Court of Common Pleas	New Castle County Courthouse 500 North King Street
Delaware Family Court	New Castle County Courthouse 500 North King Street
Delaware Superior Court	New Castle County Courthouse 500 North King Street
Delaware Court of Chancery	New Castle County Courthouse 500 North King Street
Delaware Supreme Court	Carvel State Office Building 820 North French Street, 11th Floor
U.S. Bankruptcy Court – District of Delaware	824 Market Street, 3rd Floor
U.S. District Court – District of Delaware	J. Caleb Boggs Federal Building 844 N. King Street

**Table 8.6.** Location of courthouses within the City of Wilmington, Delaware.

*Sources: Delaware State Courts, 2004; U.S. Bankruptcy Court - District of Delaware, 2005; U.S. District Court - District of Delaware, 2004*

## *City of Wilmington government offices*

The Department of Parks and Maintenance, headquartered at the William “Hicks” Anderson Community Center, located on 22 S. Heald Street, was the only government building located in South Wilmington in 2004. No other City of Wilmington government offices were located directly within South Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2004a). As of 2004, the majority of City of Wilmington government offices were located at the Louis L. Redding City/County Building, 800 French Street, in downtown Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2004a). City departments located in the Louis L. Redding City/County Building included: City Auditor; City Treasurer; Constituent Services; Cultural Affairs; Economic Development; Finance, Law, Licenses and Inspections; Management and Budget; Personnel; Planning; Public Works; and Real Estate and Housing. The City of Wilmington Department of Public Safety was located in the William T. McLaughlin Public Safety Building, on 300 N. Walnut Street (City of Wilmington, 2004a).

## *Senior living and centers*

As noted in Chapter 3, in 2000, 10.8 percent of the South Wilmington (block group) population was over the age of 65. Facilities available for the senior population, and listed with the City of Wilmington Department of Constituent Services in 2005, included 26 senior living or housing facilities or services and 20 senior centers (City of Wilmington, 2005b).

Of the senior living or housing services, Generations Home Care, Inc. was the only service headquartered within South Wilmington; Generations Home Care provided in-home care for seniors and also offered an adult foster care program (Generations Home Care, Inc., 2005). Two senior centers were located within South Wilmington: one through the Generations Home Care, Inc. (103 Rogers Road) and the other being the South Wilmington Senior Adult Program, Inc. (451 Townsend Street) (City of Wilmington, 2005b).

## *Places of worship*

Within the City of Wilmington, in 2005, there were 108 religious organizations or places of worship, 15 of which were located in South Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2005b). South Wilmington places of worship included the following:

- ◆ Mt. Joy United Methodist Church (451 Townsend Street);
  - ◆ Oasis de Salvation (451 Townsend Street);
  - ◆ New Calvary Baptist Church (610 S. Heald Street);
  - ◆ Harrison Memorial Baptist Church (413 S. Heald Street);
  - ◆ New Life Baptist Church of Delaware (600A S. Claymont Street);
  - ◆ Agape Fellowship FW Baptist Church (623 1/2 S. Heald Street);
  - ◆ Outreach Holy Word Christian Church (400 Buttonwood Street);
  - ◆ Church of the Living Word (816 S. Heald Street);
  - ◆ Genesis New Life Apostolic (321 S. Heald Street);
  - ◆ Pena De Horeb Pentecostal (1401 A Street);
  - ◆ New Gethsemane (431 S. Claymont Street); and
  - ◆ Holy Ghost Church (1218 B Street)
- (J. Allison, personal communication, May 11, 2005).

## 8.d. Public and Social Services

This section presents information on services provided for the South Wilmington community, including health care, services provided by the City of Wilmington Department of Public Works, and civic and neighborhood organizations active in South Wilmington.

### *Health care facilities*

With regards to health care, in 2005, South Wilmington was accessible to a range of facilities, including one local out-patient facility and several full-service hospitals.

In 2005, there was one health-care facility located within South Wilmington: Henrietta Johnson Medical Center (HJMC). The Southbridge HJMC location, found at 601 New Castle Avenue, was an out-patient facility that offered a range of services. These services included the following:

- ♦ *primary health care services*, including complete physical exams, immunizations for children and adults, family planning, chronic disease management (e.g., diabetes, hypertension, high cholesterol, etc.), cancer screenings, sexually transmitted disease (STD) testing and treatment, and HIV counseling and testing;
- ♦ *obstetrical and women's health services*, including prenatal care (including deliveries), family planning, nutrition counseling, annual gynecological exams, and STD and HIV testing and treatment; and
- ♦ *dental care*, including preventive treatments (e.g., cleanings, x-rays, etc.), extractions, root canals, crowns, and partial and full dentures (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005).

The Southbridge HJMC location had an on-site laboratory, where patients could have most laboratory work completed; the lab offered discounts to patients without insurance. Additionally, the Southbridge HJMC location had a pharmacy program for patients with no medical insurance (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005). In 2005, the HJMC Southbridge location had approximately 30 employees, including three family practice physicians, two nurse practitioners, one part-time obstetrician/gynecologist, one part-time podiatrist, and one dentist (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005).

In the year 2004, Southbridge HJMC provided care to approximately 5,000 patients and generated over 18,000 visits; patients were 72 percent Black, 14 percent White, 10 percent Hispanic, and four percent of some other race (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005). HJMC accepted most insurance programs, including Medicare and Medicaid, and provided sliding fee-scale discounts to those patients who qualified, based on family income and family size. In 2004, approximately 30 percent of patients had no medical insurance (R. Rivera, personal communication, June 3, 2005). HJMC was a Federally Qualified Health Center, which meant that the Center received federal funding from the Bureau of Primary Health Care; HJMC also received some state funding in 2005. The 1998 City of Wilmington Capital Budget allocated \$200,000 for building improvements to the HJMC facility (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b).

As of 2005, South Wilmington residents could also receive in-patient and out-patient treatment at six major hospitals located within the City of Wilmington, which are listed in Table 8.7., below.



Hospital	Location	# of beds
Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children & Nemours Children's Clinic	1600 Rockland Road	166
Riverside Hospital	700 Lea Boulevard	42
Saint Francis Hospital	7 <sup>th</sup> and Clayton Streets	107
Select Specialty Hospital - Wilmington	W. 7 <sup>th</sup> and N Clayton Streets	35
Wilmington Veterans Affairs Medical Center	1601 Kirkwood Highway	58 beds, 60-bed Nursing Home Care Unit
Wilmington Hospital (Christina Health Care System)	501 W. 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	250 licensed beds, plus 41 licensed inpatient-beds

**Table 8.7.** Hospitals in the City of Wilmington.

Sources: *American Hospital Directory, 2005; Christina Care Health System, 2005*

## City of Wilmington Publics Works services

The City of Wilmington Department of Public Works was responsible for a wide range of services, including management of public property, refuse collection, street cleaning, street and sewer maintenance, transportation policy and planning, and waste water treatment (City of Wilmington, 2004a). Unlike most other entities within Delaware, the City of Wilmington does not rely on State funds to provide these public services (City of Wilmington, 2003).

In 2005, the City of Wilmington collected garbage, rubbish, and refuse in South Wilmington on Mondays and Thursdays (City of Wilmington, 2004a). Trash left for collection was required to be stored in water-tight metal or plastic containers with lids. As of 2003, the City of Wilmington did not offer a curbside recycling program; however, residents could drop off recycling at four designated “recycling igloos” located throughout the city, none of which are directly located in South Wilmington (City of Wilmington, 2004a).

The Department of Public Works was also responsible for street maintenance. In the City of Wilmington 2004 Capital Budget, the City designated nearly \$1.4 million for the construction of internal circulation streets along Christina Landing (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b).

## Civic and neighborhood organizations

As of 2004, there were a total of 55 civic and neighborhood organizations within the City of Wilmington and registered with the City Department of Constituent Services. Of these 55 organizations, three were located in South Wilmington: South Wilmington Community Council, Southbridge Civic Association, and the Neighborhood House (City of Wilmington, 2005b).

### 8.e. Water Works

The City of Wilmington is the only major water utility in Delaware that does not have an allocation withdrawal permit; rather, Wilmington has an entitlement that allows the city to take water (up to 55 million gallons/day) from Brandywine Creek without paying charges to the Delaware River Basin Commission (City of Wilmington, 2004c). In 2004, the water system had a capacity of 44 million gallons/day, but average usage was estimated at 26 million gallons/day (City of Wilmington, 2004c).

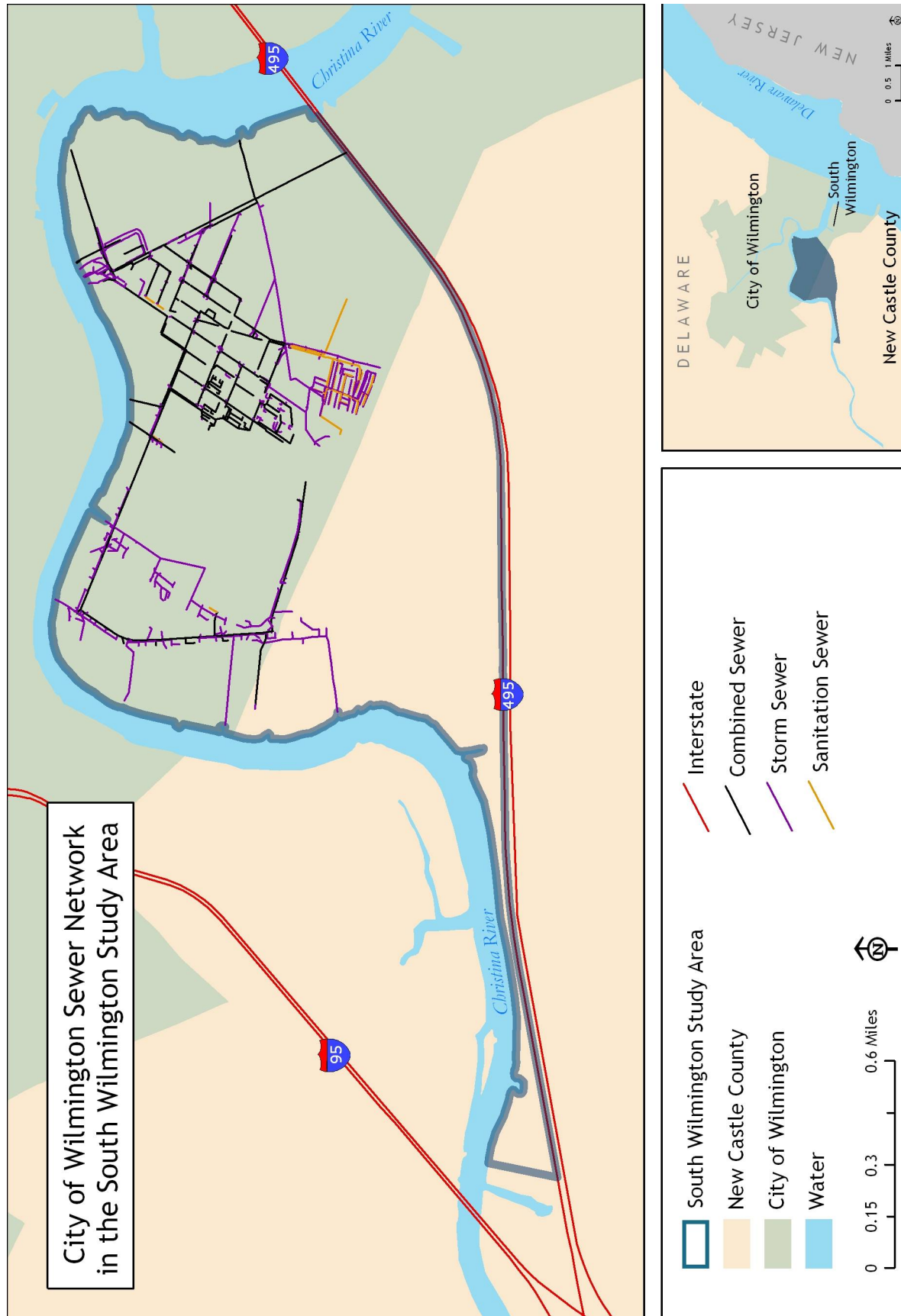
In addition to serving as the water provider, the City of Wilmington was also the wastewater service provider for South Wilmington; wastewater treatment was operated by Veolia Water North America Operating Services (City of Wilmington, 2004c). From the City in 2004, average wastewater flow was 80 million gallons/day, although the wastewater system had the capacity to treat up to 400 million gallons of waste per day (City of Wilmington, 2004c). Also in 2004, the City of Wilmington held a Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) permit to discharge 134 million gallons of wastewater/day (DNREC Permit #DE-0021320; City of Wilmington, 2004c).

The City of Wilmington 2004 Capital budget allocated \$525,000 for the construction of necessary infrastructure for the Christina Landing (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b).

The location of storm, sanitation, and combined (storm and sanitation) sewer system pipes in South Wilmington are shown in Figure 8.5. As of 2005, there were a total of 6.3 miles of sewer system pipes in South Wilmington; 2.8 miles of these pipes were part of the storm sewer system, 0.4 miles were part of the sanitation sewer system, and 3.0 miles were combined system pipes (Table 8.8).

Sewer System	Length
Storm	2.8 miles
Sanitation	0.4 miles
Combined	3.0 miles
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.3 miles</b>

**Table 8.8.** Sewer system pipe lengths for South Wilmington.  
*Source: Delaware Coastal Programs, 2005*



**Figure 8.5.** Sewer system in South Wilmington.  
Source: *Delaware Coastal Programs*, 2005

## 8.f. Parks and Recreation

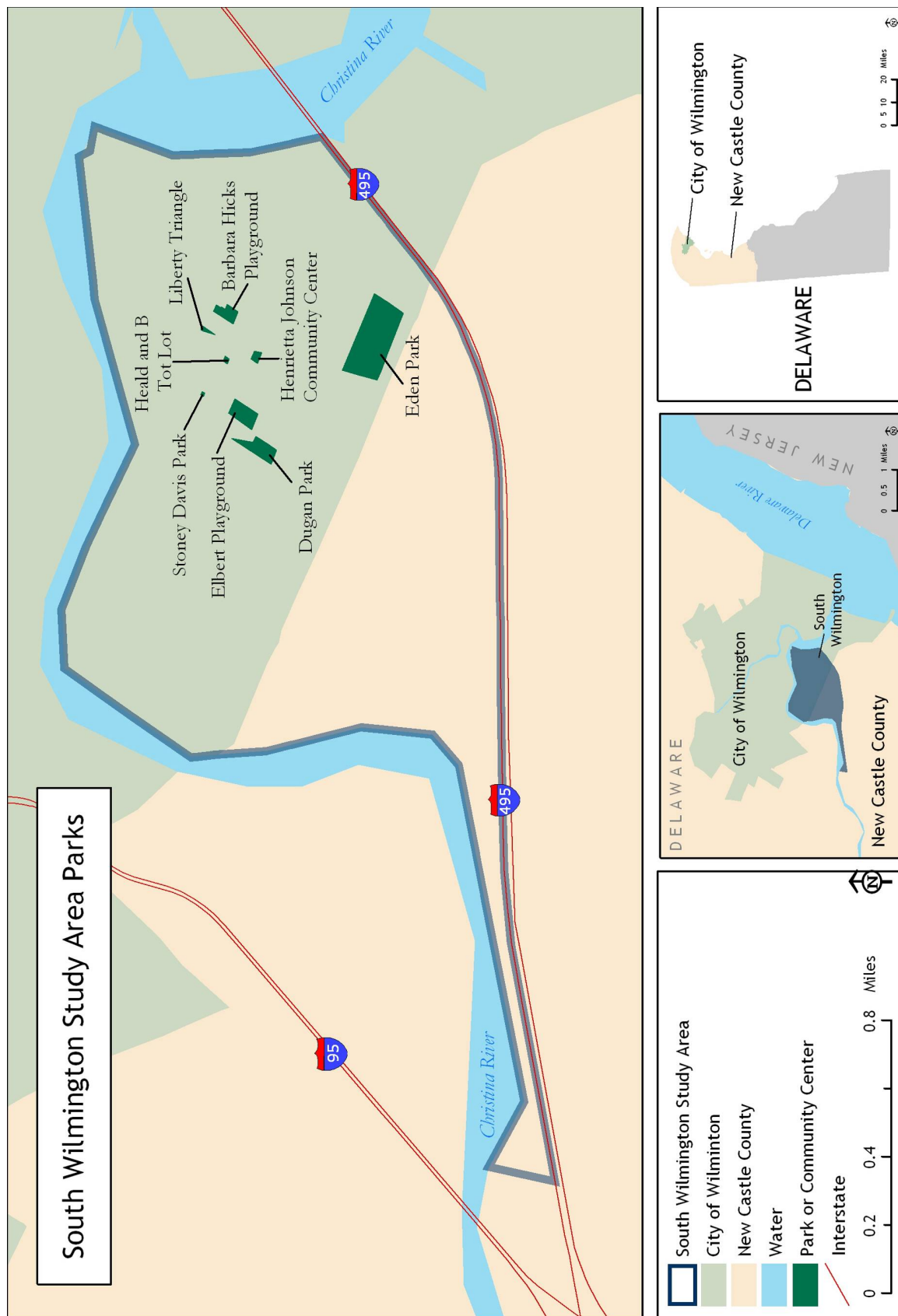
As of 2005, there were eight parks or community centers within South Wilmington, totaling 11.0 acres (Figure 8.6., Table 8.9.). Of these parks, only Eden Park received federal funds and only Elbert Playground received state funds. None of the parks were located directly on the water and none had nature centers, bike racks, or separate restroom facilities. At 5.5 acres, Eden Park was South Wilmington's largest park and had a swimming pool, bathhouse, one basketball court, two ballfields, a playground, and a picnic area; \$100,000 was allocated in the City of Wilmington 1998 Capital Budget to install football field lights at the park, in order to create a multipurpose field (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b). Additional details about the South Wilmington parks can be found in Table 8.9., below.

The City of Wilmington has targeted funds for the creation of new parks in South Wilmington in the future (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b). The 1998 Capital Budget directed \$10,000 for planning and design work for the Elbert Playground. The City's 2004 Capital Budget allocated over \$2.5 million for the construction of the Christina Landing Park, which would be a riverfront facility (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004b). Also in the 2004 Capital Budget, \$1.5 million was identified for the development of the Diamond State Sports and Learning Center. The funding for the Center was designated as "program" spending in 2004, meaning that the City anticipated spending this money in the five "outyears," but the project had not officially yet been funded; the 2006 Capital Budget did allocate the \$1.5 million cost for the construction of the Center (G. Kaminsky, personal communication, April 25, 2005; City of Wilmington, 2004).

Park/Community Center	Area (acres)	Amenities								
		Ballfield	Basketball court	Bathhouse	Multipurpose area	Picnic area	Playground	Swimming pool	Tennis court	Tot lot
Eden Park	5.5	X	X	X		X	X	X		
Henrietta Johnson Community Center	0.3									
Dugan Park	2.0	X								
Elbert Playground	1.9				X	X	X			
Heald & B Tot Lot	0.1									
Barbara Hicks Playground	1.0		X			X	X		X	X
Liberty Triangle	0.2									
Stoney Davis Park	0.1									

**Table 8.9.** Parks and community centers, areas, and amenities in South Wilmington.

Source: City of Wilmington Department of Parks and Recreation, 2005



**Figure 8.6.** Location of parks and community centers in South Wilmington.  
 Source: *City of Wilmington Department of Parks and Recreation, 2005*